

CDJ011 - -21/22



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF MUSIC

2010-11 SEASON

Friday, January 28, 2011
7:30 pm. Walter Hall

NEW MUSIC FESTIVAL
Trio sTREga in Concert

Katarzyna Marczak, clarinet
Ewa Sas, violin
Erika Crinó, piano
with guest David Hetherington, cello

PROGRAM

1. Intro

Chen Yi

Chinese Ancient Dances, for clarinet and piano

2. Ox Tail Dance

3. HuXun Dance

Ryan Purchase

4. Intro

The 53 Stations of the Tokaido, Book One, for violin solo
Commissioned by Ewa Sas.

5.

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Nihonbashi
Shinagawa
Kawasaki
Kanagawa
Hodogaya
Totsuka
Fujisawa
Hiratsuka
Oiso
Odawara
Hakone

6. intro

Chan Ka Nin

7, 8 *Majestic Flair*, for piano solo

Kevin Lau

9. Intro

10. *To the Edge of the Sky*, for clarinet, violin, piano

- INTERMISSION -

1. Intro

Chen Yi

2.

Romance of Hsiao and Ch'in, for cello and piano

Gary Kulesha

3. Intro

Aphorisms, for piano solo

Igor Stravinsky

5. Intro

Histoire du Soldat, for clarinet, violin, and piano

6. Marche du Soldat

7. Le Violon du Soldat

8. Petit Concert

9. Tango-Valse-Rag

10. Le Danse du Diable

Note on *TO THE EDGE OF THE SKY* by Kevin Lau

The title *To the Edge of the Sky* refers to the name of a popular resort located at the southernmost tip of the Hainan Province in China — Tianya Haijiao, meaning the place on the horizon where sea and sky converge. This cape features prominently in Chinese literature. One such poem tells of an eloping couple whom, after being pursued by their disapproving families, leap into the sea together and are transformed into the two massive stones which now mark the landscape. On one stone is carved with the words Tianya (edge of the sky); on the other,

Haijiao (corner of the sea). The stones are now viewed as symbols of eternal and faithful love. *To the Edge of the Sky* (2010) is essentially a romantic duet between the clarinet and violin, with the piano acting as the mysterious 'absolute' which surrounds and permeates both entities. At first, both violin and clarinet—like the sea and sky—are expressed as independent from one another. Gradually, as the piece gathers momentum, the instrumental lines mingle and intertwine, climbing further and further into a single point of ecstasy.

PERFORMERS

Trio sTREga is a chamber group co-founded by Polish clarinetist Katarzyna (Kasia) Marczak and Italian pianist Erika Crinó. Kasia and Erika met in Vancouver at the University of British Columbia while both completing their Doctorates in Performance. The trio has made its debut in 2006 in Vancouver, it quickly established itself as a young and approachable ensemble, recognized for its highly professional yet friendly readings of even the most complex scores. The group was immediately invited to perform at the "New Music Alberta" series during its 2006-2007 season. After a short Winter Residency at the Banff Centre for the Arts, where they collaborated with such artists as Barry Shiffman and Henk Guittart, Erika and Kasia moved to Toronto. With outstanding violinist Ewa Sas, Trio sTREga has performed in Toronto at the Koffler Centre for the Arts, Heliconian Hall, the Polish Consulate of Toronto and Metro Hall. This past October the group was invited to tour the West Coast of Canada, giving masterclasses, lectures, and performing several concerts in Saskatchewan and British Columbia. Trio sTREga has proudly collaborated with a variety of artists such as soprano Vania Chan, cellists Roberta Bottelli, Mateusz Swoboda and Luke Pomorski, pianist Brett Kingsbury, photographer Tanya Workman, painter Tamara Harut and composers Dr. Norbert Palej, Dr. Jocelyn Morlock and Dr. Piotr Grella-Mozejko among others.

Katarzyna Marczak graduated from the Instrumental Department of the Academy of Music in Cracow (M.Mus. in Clarinet Performance), and the following year she received her second M.Mus. from the Department of Composition, Conducting and Music Theory at the same institution. In 2009 she obtained her DMA degree from the University of British Columbia. Ms. Marczak is a founding member and artistic director of the Ara Ensemble, a chamber group specializing in contemporary music. The ensemble has performed at many festivals, music seminars and individual concerts in Poland and

abroad. In 2003 the group recorded, and in 2006 released, its first CD devoted to Canadian composers. As a soloist Katarzyna Marczak has appeared at festivals and music seminars. In 1992 she performed as a pianist in the finals of the Competition of Contemporary Music in Warsaw. In 2003 she recorded a number of contemporary pieces for clarinet, released in 2005 on CDs accompanying scores published by the Polish Music Edition (PWM). In 2008 she successfully performed the famous **HARLEKIN** by Karlheinz Stockhausen, a 45-minute long stage dance piece for solo clarinet. She presented the piece already on a concert tour in Poland in November 2008, as well as in The Banff Centre for the Arts, during her creative residency in Fall/Winter 2008/2009.

Born in Tarnow, Poland, **Ewa Sas** began playing the violin at the age of 7. In 2006 she graduated with First Class Honors from the Instrumental Department of Akademia Muzyczna in Cracow, receiving her Master of Arts degree in violin performance under Professor Teresa Glabówna. From 2001 to 2006, in recognition of her academic achievements, Ewa received Study Scholarships for every year of her studies. During that time, she also completed an Inter-Faculty Pedagogical Program, hosted at the Akademia Muzyczna in Cracow. In 2008 she finished her second Master degree (M.Mus) in violin performance at University of British Columbia in the studio of Jasper Wood. For the 2 years she was living in Vancouver, Ewa was concertmaster of Orchestra Armonia, a member of the Erato Ensemble, and she performed throughout B.C. with many orchestras and chamber ensembles, as well as solo, including a performance at the 2006 B.C. Fashion Week Opening Show. Most recently, Ewa has been heard in Toronto performing Wieniawski's Violin Concerto with the Toronto Sinfonietta conducted by Matthew Jaskiewicz. Ewa now resides in Montreal, and studies with Richard Roberts, concertmaster of Montreal Symphony, and Denise Lupien, of McGill University.

Italian pianist **Erika Crinó** is active both as a chamber musician and a soloist. Several of her performances have been featured on CBC Radio both as a soloist and in chamber music settings, collaborating with percussionist Salvador Ferreras, clarinetist Francois Houle, pianist Brett Kingsbury, and, more recently, in a performance of Jocelyn Morlock's "Involuntary Love Songs", with soprano Vania Chan, as winners of the special prize at the Eckhard-Gramatté Competition. Since moving to Toronto, Erika has been regularly heard in such venues as the Glenn Gould Studio, where she performed Bach's Triple Concerto with pianists Robert Silverman and Brett Kingsbury; the Koffler Chamber Orchestra under Jacques Israelievitch; Massey Hall in a Monster Concert directed by William Shookoff, and at the Heliconian Hall with Trio sTREga. She is currently faculty at the Kingsway Conservatory and at the Koffler Centre for the Arts where she is also music coordinator. After graduating from the Conservatorio "Tartini" and the International School of Chamber Music of the Trio di Trieste in her native Trieste, Italy, Erika attended the class of Bruno Canino in Seveso (Milano) and then furthered her studies in Canada. Erika received both her Master and Doctorate in Piano Performance from the University of British Columbia, studying with Robert Silverman.

A native of St. Catharines, Ontario, **David Hetherington** is the Toronto Symphony Orchestra's assistant principal cellist. He received his musical training at The Royal Conservatory and the University of Toronto, and furthered his studies in New York, Italy, and Germany. A member of the TSO since 1970, David also teaches cello and chamber music at The Royal Conservatory and the University of Toronto. He coaches the cello sections of the Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra and the National Youth Orchestra of Canada, and is music director of the Inter-Provincial Music Camp. As a soloist, David has performed with the TSO, Niagara Symphony, and Symphony Orchestra of Canada. As a chamber musician, he has toured three continents, and has performed at the Ottawa, Elora, and Kincardine Music Festivals. David is a founding member of the Amici Chamber Ensemble, and the string quartet Accordes. In 2001, the Canadian Music Centre, through Centrediscs, released Accordes's recording of Harry Somers's String Quartets, for which it received a Juno Award nomination. David has appeared on several recordings for the CBC and Centrediscs, with whom he made the Canadian premier recording of Talivaldis Kenins's prize-winning cello sonata. In addition, he has recorded nine discs with Amici for Summit Records, Naxos, and CBC Records.

COMPOSERS

CHAN KA NIN has won numerous national and international composition awards including Béla Bartók International Composers' Competition, Barlow International Competitions, Jean A. Chalmers Awards for Musical Composition, and Juno Award for Best Classical Composition. He has received numerous composition awards. His works have been performed in North America, Europe and Asia by ensemble such as the National Arts Orchestra, Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Vancouver Symphony, CBC Vancouver Orchestra, Calgary Philharmonic, Kodaly Quartet, Purcell Quartet, the Thirteen Strings of Ottawa. Prof. Chan has served on the board of the League of Canadian Composers. Some of his works are published by Editio Musica Budapest, Hinshaw Music and Jaymar Music. His recent compositions are available on 6 CD's by artists such as The Esprit, Ottawa Winds, Amici, Rosemarie Landry and Lawrence Cherney. Prof. Chan taught at Indiana University before coming to University of Toronto.

Charles Ives Living Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, **CHEN YI** blends Chinese and Western traditions. She holds both a BA and MA in music composition from the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing, and received her DMA from Columbia University, studying composition with Wu Zuqiang, Chou Wen-chung and Mario Davidovsky. She was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2005.

Chen Yi's music has been commissioned by Yehudi Menuhin, Yo-Yo Ma, Evelyn Glennie, the Cleveland Orchestra, the BBC, the Seattle, Pacific, and Singapore Symphonies, the Brooklyn, New York, and Los Angeles Philharmonic, Sächsische Staatskapelle Dresden, the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, Raschèr Saxophone Quartet and Stuttgart Chamber Orchestra, Orchestra of St. Luke's, and recorded on many labels, including BIS, New Albion, CRI, Teldec, Telarc, Albany, New World, Naxos, Quartz, Delos, Angel, Nimbus, and KIC.

Dr. Chen has received numerous honors, including fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts, the Lieberman Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters,

As a Distinguished Professor at the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music and Dance, a prolific composer and recipient of the prestigious

a Grammy Award, the Lili Boulanger Award from the National Women Composers Resource Center, the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center's Elise Stoecker Award, and honorary doctorates from Lawrence University, Baldwin-Wallace College, the University of Portland, and The New School University. Chen Yi was the first woman to receive a master's degree in composition in China, and also the first woman to give an evening multimedia orchestral concert in the US, which occurred during her 3-year residency with The Women's Philharmonic and Chanticleer, supported by Meet The Composer. She has given feature concerts of her orchestral and choral works presented by the China National Symphony Orchestra and Chorus, and was appointed Changjiang Scholar Visiting Professor at the Beijing Central Conservatory by the China Education Ministry.

Recent premieres included *Prelude and Fugue* for the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, a duet *From Old Peking Folklore* for the Music Teachers' Association of California Friends of Today, and *Jing Marimba* for the Zeltsman Marimba Festival, *From the Path of Beauty* for Chanticleer and the Shanghai String Quartet, *Rhyme of Fire* for the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, *Woodwind Quintet No. 3* for the Eastman School of Music, *Prospect Overture* for the China National Symphony Orchestra, *Three Bagatelles from China West* at Carnegie Hall, *China West Suite* for Dennis Russell Davies and *Maki Namekawa* at the Ruhr Piano Festival. Other world premieres include *Celebration* for the Maryland Classic Youth Philharmonic, *Spring in Dresden* for Mira Wang and *Sächsische Staatskapelle Dresden* (co-commissioned by the NY Phil, premiered in Germany), the Pulitzer Prize finalist *Si Ji* (Four Seasons) for the Cleveland Orchestra (premiered at the Lucerne Music Festival, Severance Hall in Cleveland, and Carnegie Hall), *Ji-Dong-Nuo*, commissioned by Carnegie Hall for Emanuel Ax, *Ancient Dances* for Wu Man, commissioned by the Walton Arts Center in Arkansas, *The Ancient Beauty for Music From China* and the Philadelphia Classical Symphony, and *Han Figurines*, commissioned by Opus 21 and Fontana Chamber Arts.

New commissions include a wind ensemble work, *Dragon Rhyme*, premiered at Carnegie Hall, a work for the San Francisco Girls Chorus and Cypress String Quartet, and a work for solo violin to be premiered at the China National Concert Hall. Future commissions include works for eighth blackbird, the Mid-America Competing Band Directors Association, the American Choral

Directors Association, Singapore ACJC, Gustavus College Orchestra, Central Bucks High School Choir, and the Seattle Symphony.

GARY KULESHA is one of Canada's most active and most visible musicians. Although principally a composer, he is active as both a pianist and conductor, and as a teacher. Mr. Kulesha's music has been commissioned, performed, and recorded by musicians and ensembles all over the world. He was appointed Composer In Residence with the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony Orchestra, as well as with the Canadian Opera Company. Mr. Kulesha was awarded the first National Arts Centre Orchestra Composer Award, along with Alexina Louie and Denys Bouliane. This began a four year relationship with the NACO and its Artistic Director, Pinchas Zuckerman. Mr. Kulesha has been the Artistic Director of The Composers' Orchestra since 1987. His conducting activities are extensive, and he has premiered literally hundreds of works. He has guest conducted frequently with several major orchestras throughout Canada, and has recorded for radio and CD. Although he is well-known as a specialist in 20th Century music, his repertoire is extensive, ranging from little-known Baroque music through to the music of our time.

KEVIN LAU is active as a composer of contemporary orchestral and chamber music. He has had music commissioned and performed by a variety of ensembles. He was the winner both the 2005 Mississauga Young Composers' Competition and the University of Toronto Symphony Orchestra Composer's Competition in 2008/09. Recently, he was awarded the 2010 Karen Kieser Prize for his composition *Starsail*, for cello and piano. In addition to his concert endeavours, Kevin has written music for the theatre, video games, and over a dozen films. Kevin is an accomplished pianist and arranger who has performed in a variety of series and venues. In 2007 Kevin co-founded the Sneak Peek Orchestra with conductor Victor Cheng. Composed primarily of student musicians and emerging professionals, the orchestra has performed and recorded several of his works, including *The Water of Life* (with violinist Conrad Chow.) Kevin is currently composer in residence at the Mississauga Symphony Orchestra and is pursuing his doctorate degree in music composition at the University of Toronto under the supervision of Christos Hatzis.